



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/973,956		
		Filing Date	October 11, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Ronald W. MINK		
		Art Unit	1723		
		Examiner Name	D. SORKIN		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	030793-052100

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
JLV		US-4,635,488	01/03/1987	Kremer	
SM		US-5,714,341	02/03/1998	Thieme et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature	<i>Paul Mink</i>	Date Considered	4/25/05
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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